

Esperance  
Saturday night

My Dearest Cis

I have just posted thy last to you - It was too late for the mail so I went aboard the steamer- where I had the option of posting in the late letter bag with an additional 3d stamp or giving it to the Captain to post in Adelaide .But I preferred the former as I thought the Captain might put it in his pocket and forget all about it.

(-----) of you tonight (-----) feel annoyed with myself for being so selfish I know I should devote a little more time to writing to you and I really will try and

and do so in future. I feel as if I had not written to you for an age darling my letters of late being so hurriedly written.

Cis I am looking forward to my trip now more than ever but I darenot attempt to count the days. I know I am doing what you approve of dearest and I will come as soon as I can possibly manage it.

My dear old Love you must not say that "you cannot know your own mind yet". I do (-----) I know (-----) have been a sore trial for you on that day, not even getting a letter or telegram from me. That you understand why, is a small consolation now

Cis I would have given anything to write a letter and know that you received it on that day. But unfortunately I did not know but what auspicious occasion was over until I received your dear letter telling me x My darling what a lot we will have to talk about when we meet (eh dearie).

Now my own I must say good x night Tomorrow I will tell you what I have been doing (-----) you (-----)

Good x night Kiss....good x night and give love to all  
From Yours alone  
Ray

Well my own here I am again. I have thrown away a good half hour: - I had written a letter to Minnie and while pulling an envelope out of the packet knocked a pen full of ink all over it. I felt annoyed and tore it to atoms. Now I am going to have a little talk with my love and leave Minnie's till this evening or tomorrow. Cis it is miserably cold here today. I am nearly freezing and I doubt whether you will be able (-----) my (-----) what I was doing the other night.

Well after completing your letter I walked up to the P.O. with Mr Cameron (that is the gentleman's

gentleman's name) who was waiting for me. Finding that the mail had closed and that the late letter bag was aboard the steamer I decided to attend to Cameron's business first and go aboard later. This necessitated my going to the new township three miles away. It was an awfully cold night but with our coats on and walking briskly we soon warmed up. It was nearly eleven when we arrived. Cameron (-----) hurried in (-----) with (-----) completing our business which was in connection with the Company's property then I walked home or rather to the Jetty and went aboard the

Rob Roy into the Captain's cabin pulling him out of bed he rang for the steward and in less than ten minutes we had a delicious cup of cocoa and some biscuits which I enjoyed immensely. We had a

long chat over things in general and as I would not trust the skipper with the letter he gave me a most unmerciful time with his chaff. After seeing the letter safely in (-----) I stayed (-----) regret (-----) the early hours of the morn. What does my sweetheart say to my hours (eh). Well I would not have been sorry if the old Rob Roy had steamed off while I was aboard but no such luck.

Cis, Minnie has very kindly asked me if I would make her place my home while in Melbourne? With the proviso "If I feel liking facing the Music" What am I to say? Of course I will face the music I think it unkind that you should have it all. But dearest I really do not know what to say. Something tells me I ought not to and yet I would dearly love to (-----) You (-----) give into me this time.

#### Later

I found there will not be a mail till about Thursday for the colonies which seems an awful time which reminds me that you

that you said you had not received a letter for over a week. My own although I have not written every night I have sent you a few lines by each steamer with one or two exceptions (only two, I think). Cis I really thought you would have received several letters just before the "Lubra". Tell me if you remember any other steamer arriving without a missive for you? I sent on two occasions letters with (-----) in the (-----) Why I ask is : (-----) noticed the last one felt as though it had a bank note in it & some unscrupulous person may have been mistaken and stolen the letter or even both of them.

Now Dearie I must say Good night with a big big Kiss. Do not fear darling I am yours alone. I will always love you every day my passion for you is stronger

With love & Kisses from

Yours for ever XXX Ray

#### Wednesday

My Dearest Cis,

I have just heard that there is a mail closing to night, for the (-----) S.S. Albany (-----) from (-----) so I will complete this little note.

Tomorrow I expect a dear letter from you. I do look forward to your

your letters now more than ever. How I would like to have a few words with you Cis. Just to hear your sweet voice. However I must "bide a wee".

I suppose my little girl is wondering how I like "Trilby" Well I have read about thirty pages which I did over a week ago but have not looked at it since. I will have an hour or two at it one of these evenings. I expect I will (-----) time (-----) next.

I was nearly forgetting to tell you that I went down to Arthur's place on Sunday afternoon and had about an hour with him but as I could not get him to converse on the topic I wished, I had to be content with general topics.

In his office the other day he showed me a beautiful profile portrait of a young Lady who lives in Hawthorn. I thought it splendid and am going to ask him to let me copy it you will not mind, will you dearie.

And now my own as I must (-----) Minnie's letter (-----) Kindly give my love to  
"Muddy", Ruth and all the others and accept the same yourself with plenty of you know what

From Yours Alone  
Ray